

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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DRAFTED BY NEA/P:MHVAN ORDER
APPROVED BY NEA/P:MHVAN ORDER
S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)
H - MISS FOLGER (INFO)
EUR/P - MR. JERABEK
IO/P - MR. BLACHLY
NEA/ARN - MR. KORN
AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL

----- 109637

R 010047Z MAR 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
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USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY SANAA
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
USCINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FEBRUARY 28, 1975

QUOTE: MR. ANDERSON: THERE ARE TWO AID PRESS RELEASES THAT
I BELIEVE YOU'VE JUST RECEIVED. ONE IS ON A \$1,750,000
U.S. ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGUAL, CONSISTING OF A MILLION DOLLAR
LOAN AND A \$750,000 GRANT -- AND THEN U.S. ASSISTANCE OF
25 MILLION DOLLARS FOR SYRIAN DEVELOPMENT.

Q. THAT SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FUND IS THE 100 MILLION --
THAT WAS?

A. YES, SIR.

Q. IN THE NEGOTIATION?

A. YES.

Q. SO THERE'S 75 MILLION STILL TO BE SPENT?

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A. RIGHT; CORRECT.

WITH REGARD TO THE SECRETARY'S TRIP, THERE WAS AN ANNOUNCE-
MENT MADE AT NOON -- WHICH MOST OF YOU HAVE, BUT I WOULD
LIKE TO JUST PUT IT ON THE RECORD HERE:

"THE SECRETARY WILL VISIT THE MIDDLE EAST ARRIVING IN
EGYPT ON MARCH 7. HE WILL PROCEED TO SYRIA AND ISRAEL

AND THEN RETURN TO EGYPT.

SUBSEQUENT STOPS WILL DEPEND ON THE PROGRESS OF HIS TALKS. THE SECRETARY INTENDS TO VISIT OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE AREA DURING THE COURSE OF HIS TRIP BUT FIRM DATES AND THE FINAL ITINERARY HAVE NOT YET BEEN ESTABLISHED . . . "

Q. DOES HE PLAN TO STOP OVER IN DAMASCUS, OR JUST A FEW HOURS' STOP?

A. ON BACKGROUND, I BELIEVE IT'S THE USUAL TYPE OF STOP THAT WE MAKE -- AFTERNOON AND EARLY EVENING.

Q. IS IT ASWAN IN EGYPT?

A. ON BACKGROUND, YES. I DON'T LIKE TO GIVE OUT ALL THE SPECIFIC DETAILS ON THE RECORD.

Q. IS IT HIS INTENTION TO LEAVE THE U.K. ON THE MORNING OF THE 7TH FOR EGYPT OR LATE IN THE DAY, OR WHAT IS THE PLAN?

A. FOR YOUR OWN GUIDANCE, WE WILL GET DOWN TO EGYPT IN THE EVENING. SO HE WOULD LEAVE IN THE AFTERNOON SOMETIME. THE EXACT DEPARTURE ISN'T SET YET.

Q. WHEN YOU'RE REFERRING TO OTHER COUNTRIES THAT HE MIGHT VISIT, ARE YOU REFERRING TO COUNTRIES INSIDE, IN THE MIDDLE EAST, OR ANYWHERE ELSE?

A. YES. THAT'S WHAT THE ANNOUNCEMENT REFERS TO -- FOR OTHER POSSIBLE COUNTRIES.

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Q. ARE THEY GOING TO BE IN THE MIDDLE EAST?

A. FOR EXAMPLE -- ON BACKGROUND HERE -- OBVIOUSLY, IN EVERY TRIP THAT THE SECRETARY HAS MADE TO THE MIDDLE EAST, HE HAS VISITED SAUDI ARABIA AND JORDAN; AND HE CERTAINLY WILL BE DOING THIS, BUT HE JUST CANNOT SET ANY DEFINITE TIMETABLE YET -- OTHER THAN EGYPT, SYRIA, ISRAEL BACK TO EGYPT SEE HOW THE TALKS ARE MOVING, AND THEN SET A FURTHER ITINERARY AFTER THAT.

Q. BUT IT DOESN'T MEAN HE MIGHT GO AWAY AGAIN TO VARIOUS EUROPEAN CAPITALS, FOR INSTANCE?

A. I DO NOT KNOW. I HAVE NOTHING ON THAT AT THIS TIME.

Q. WHAT ABOUT GOING TO SOME OF THE EMIRATES OR SOMEPLACE?

A. THE SECRETARY SAID A NUMBER OF TIMES THAT HE HOPES TO VISIT SOME OF THE COUNTRIES -- SUCH AS KUWAIT, FOR INSTANCE, IN THE PERSIAN GULF -- AND --

Q. WHAT'S WRONG WITH ABU DHABI?

A. -- WE JUST CAN'T SAY AT THIS TIME. IT WILL DEPEND ON HOW THE TALKS PROGRESS ON WHETHER SUCH A VISIT OR VISITS COULD TAKE PLACE ON THIS CURRENT TRIP.

Q. IS THERE ANY OUTSIDE TIME LIMIT ON THIS TRIP?

A. NO, SIR.

Q. IT COULD GO ON FOR WEEKS?

A. I DON'T WISH TO SPECULATE ON THE LENGTH OF THE TRIP.

Q. DOES THE SECRETARY PLAN TO MEET WITH MR. GROMYKO AT THE END OF HIS MIDDLE EAST TRIP?

A. THERE ARE NO CURRENT PLANS FOR A MEETING WITH MR. GROMYKO. HERE AGAIN, IF SOMETHING IS WORKED OUT -- IF THEY DO, IF THERE IS A PLAN FOR THEM TO MEET -- YOU WILL UNCLASSIFIED

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BE INFORMED. BUT, AS OF NOW, THERE IS NO PLAN; BUT I DON'T WANT TO BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE HERE NOW BY SAYING THAT THERE WOULD NEVER BE A MEETING. BUT AS OF NOW THERE IS NOTHING PLANNED.

Q. DOES THE SECRETARY PLAN TO MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT OF ISRAEL, WHO WILL BE IN WASHINGTON ON MONDAY?

A. I HAVE NOT CHECKED HIS SCHEDULE FOR MONDAY, BUT I WOULD BE UTTERLY AMAZED IF HE DID NOT MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT OF ISRAEL. I'M SURE THAT HE PROBABLY WILL.

I CAN SAY THAT WITHOUT EVEN CHECKING HIS SCHEDULE, I THINK -- UNLESS THERE'S SOME REASON THAT I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT HE COULDN'T MEET WITH HIM. I'M SURE THAT HE WOULD MEET -- PROBABLY WHEN HE SEES THE PRESIDENT.

Q. WHAT IS THE STATE DEPARTMENT EXPECTATION ABOUT THE EXPIRATION OF THE FOREIGN AID LEGISLATION TONIGHT UNDER THE CONTINUING RESOLUTION?

A. I CAN'T GIVE YOU ANYTHING ON THAT. I CAN'T SPECULATE

ON IT. I DON'T KNOW WHETHER IT WILL EXPIRE OR NOT
TONIGHT. I'M HOPING THAT CERTAIN ACTION WILL BE TAKEN SO
IT WON'T.

Q. DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY FEELING AS TO
WHETHER IT MATTERS OR NOT?

A. OF COURSE IT MATTERS. END QUOTE. KISSINGER

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